



BRANDING IRON

Volume LXII, Number 11, September 9, 2015

Last Week: Stark Development Corporation



Gaylon Baker, executive vice president of Stark Development, discussed the economic opportunities and challenges of our region. He reviewed a number of statistics, including workforce, tax collections, real estate transactions, and building permits.

July 2015 employment in Stark County was up 3.3% over July 2014. Unemployment has increased to 2.1%, but still trails North Dakota (2.6%) and the nation (5.6%). City sales tax collections are down 16% year-over-year. Similarly, airline boardings at Theodore Roosevelt Regional Airport are down 16% from this time last year.

Areas of opportunity include mining (once oil prices rebound), transportation, construction, and professional services. Transportation remains strong, as our local manufacturing firms serve a national market that is growing as the national economy improves. Construction employment is expected to remain strong for up to 2 years, with major infrastructure projects like the overpass on State Avenue, fiber-optic projects that are underway, and the building of pipelines in the oil patch continues.

(continued on page 2)



This Week's Greeters Are:

Seth Poland and Tim Priebe

Next Week:

Chip Poland & Dawn Pruitt

Give Thanks Today: Todd Schweitzer

Next Week: Paul Steffes

Father, thank you for the recent rains and the bountiful harvest. Bless our community with care and compassion for one another, and especially for the poor and needy among us. Amen.

Your Program Today:

Sean Smith, DSU Foundation Update

Coming Up:

September 16—DSU Athletics, Tim Daniel

September 23—Matt Perdue, DSU Student

Program Chair: Jim Ozburn Next Month: Dennis Cannon/Jodi Bosch

Birthdays

Chuck Bokinskie 9/9

Harvey Brock 9/10

Sharon Kilzer 9/10

Announcements:

- We are still in need of a newsletter editor and two reporters. Please see Marvin Eberts if you enjoy design and are willing to consider taking over the editorial role, or if you would report on one week a month.
- Members are encouraged to give to the [Rotary Foundation](#). The club has set a goal of more than 20 new contributors this year. Remember, your gift helps to advance Rotary's good work around the world.
- Highway Clean-up is scheduled for Wednesday, September 9. Rotarians will meet at the Elks parking lot at 5:15 p.m. and travel to the Painted Canyon rest area, picking up garbage along the Interstate for a couple miles east and west of that exit. Contact Seth Poland to sign up: sethpoland@hotmail.com or 701-590-1517.

Stark Development Corporation

(cont'd from page 1)

Gaylon believes that, although many of the temporary workers who maintained homes elsewhere have left, those who remain may find opportunities with local firms that are more than just a job but a career.

Areas of growth and strength in our economy include health care, education, and hospitality and leisure.

Pancake Karnival

To support its ongoing gifts to local and global initiatives, Dickinson Rotary conducts a number of fundraising activities. One of the most important is the Pancake Karnival, held every fall around the time of Dickinson State University's Homecoming. This single event raises more than \$10,000, with most of the proceeds dedicated to Rotary International's continuing campaign to "End Polio Now."

To reach this year's fundraising goal, each Rotary member is asked to sell 20 tickets (or buy them and give to friends and associates) for this breakfast of pancakes, sausage, coffee, and juice. On the day of the event, Sunday, October 4, members of our Rotary Club are joined by Boy Scouts from the Roughrider District in serving, clearing and re-setting tables, pouring coffee, and making our guests feel at home.

Tickets for this year's event have been distributed. Please do your part in supporting this important event, both by selling tickets and signing up to help cook or serve. It enables us to make a difference in our world.



Dickinson Club Website:

www.dickinsonrotary.org

 DickinsonRotary

District Website:

www.clubrunner.ca/5580

Rotary International Website:

www.rotary.org

Club Contact:

Erv Bren, President
president@dickinsonrotary.org

Last Meeting Visitors

- Joe Wiegand, member of Encinitas Rotary Club
- Jennifer Gooss, Dickinson City Attorney and prospective member, guest of Shawn Kessel